

Chile (Cable, Jan. 30). The harvesting of crops continued throughout the Republic; however, the wheat yield, as reported for the Santiago-Concepcion zone, is very disappointing. Reports from the wheat fields indicated that there has been considerable rust. Prices of all agricultural commodities have declined sharply because of lack of demand.

Colombia (Cable, Feb. 5). The Magdalena is reported to be in good condition and it is stated that the strike at Barranca Bermeja is terminated. However, the martial law, declared January 26, is still effective from that point to Girardot. . . . Barranca Bermeja lies some 350 miles from the mouth of the river, midway between Barranquilla and Girardot, so that a strike at that point paralyzes freight movement to Bogota, Medellin, and other points in the interior. . . . The immediate effect of the situation is to cause intense suffering among the poorer classes of the population, but should transportation difficulties be prolonged until the proximate dry season again ties up traffic on the Magdalena, the coffee export movement will be seriously affected, and as this is the most important factor in the prosperity of the country as a whole, the Government is taking every step within its power to overcome the situation.

Porto Rico (Cable, Jan. 31). Nearly all of the sugar mills are grinding, but it is reported that some of them are experiencing reduced yields as a result of recent rains; several areas now need dry weather for increasing the sucrose content of the cane. . . .

The tobacco crop is progressing nicely, and many new sheds are being erected in the tobacco districts, thereby reducing the possibility of shortage of storage facilities. Rains are hampering the early harvesting of the leaf, and the tobacco being picked contains excessive moisture.

Trinidad (Cable, Jan. 29). A general feeling of optimism prevailed in Trinidad during January, because increased prices were received for all the products of the island. The sugar crop is doing well, but some slight damage was done to the cacao crop by the excessive rains of the past month, which is usually a dry period.

Uruguay (Cable, Jan. 29). A slight improvement was discernible in Uruguayan business conditions in January, and prospects are favorable for February and March. Packing-house operations continue active and there is considerable animation in the wool market. Fully 70 per cent of the new wool clip is reported sold. Agricultural conditions are excellent, and a good yield is expected from the corn harvest in March.

NOTES

Section Director, Clarence J. Root of the U. S. Weather Bureau, Springfield, Illinois, includes occasionally in his monthly Climatic Data some personnel notes which are of interest to co-operative observers.

In the issue for October, 1926, the notes relate particularly to observers who either formerly or until recent years were actively engaged in the climatic work in the state. Among co-operative observers, the

death of Dr. J. D. Conley at the age of 82 is mentioned. Professor Coonradt, observer for 32 years, had to retire on account of failing sight. Mr. G. H. Knetzger, after 27 years' service, moved to another town and had to give up his station to his son.

Prof. W. W. Payne of Elgin, Illinois, till recently in charge of the observatory of the Elgin National Watch Company, has retired as "Director Emeritus" at the age of 89. Mr. F. D. Urie has become director. This weather station has a meteorological equipment the same as that of a first order Weather Bureau station.

NOTES ON PUBLICATIONS

"Australian Hurricanes and Related Storms, with an appendix on Hurricanes in the South Pacific." Bulletin No. 16, Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology, Melbourne.

"Climatic Effects in the Metabolism of the Sugar Beet," by Tottingham, Lepkovsky, Schulz and Link. Jour. Agric. Research, Vol. 33, No. 1, July 1, 1926.

"Hail Insurance: Its Economic Aspects," by A. Manes and W. Rohrbek. International Review of Agric. Economics, New Series, Year 4, No. 3, July-Sept., 1926.

"Our Climate. Useful Information Regarding the Climate Between the Rocky Mts. and the Atlantic Coast, with Special Reference to Maryland and Delaware." By Roscoe Nunn, U. S. Weather Bureau, Baltimore. Published by Maryland State Weather Service in co-operation with the U. S. Weather Bureau. 3rd, enlarged edition, Oct., 1926.

"Protection of Buildings and Farm Property from Lightning," by Roy N. Covert, U. S. Weather Bureau. U. S. Dept. of Agric. Farmers' Bulletin, No. 1512. This is a revision of, and supersedes, Farmers' Bulletin, No. 842. The introduction states that "the three sets of specifications given herein for rods and fitting of different materials will enable the prospective buyer of protection to make an intelligent choice of the one best suited to his needs."

Petermann's Mitteilungen, 1926, Heft 11/12, pp. 269-275, contains abstracts of papers presented before the 89th meeting of the German Society of Natural sciences and the Arts in Düsseldorf, Sept., 1926, among them being a series of ten papers under the group title "Morphology of Climatic Zones." An introductory paper outlines the general problem; the nine remaining papers deal separately with the land forms of typical regions as influenced by nine climatic types.

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